

Information on the individual watershed planning efforts**Nooksack - WRIA 1**

Optional Elements: Quality, Habitat, already addressing Flows

Watershed Planning Grant funds provided to date: \$500,000

Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced

Utah State University (USU) was retained to conduct the watershed assessment. They have submitted drafts of a number of technical assessment documents and the planning unit and technical team members are reviewing the documents and compiling the comments for submittal to USU. In general, the documents relate to surface and ground water quantity and quality, instream flows, and fish habitat. Most of the documents on water quantity are aimed at satisfying the requirements of Chapter 90.82 RCW regarding the determination of water budget elements. The draft documents are quite voluminous and were transmitted on 2 compact discs.

Utah State University is developing a Decision Support System (DSS) which is a computer program that will integrate ground and surface water components of the watershed plan and will allow assessment of various water management scenarios. Members of the Planning Unit have submitted worksheets for use by USU in developing the DSS which will be refined as the project progresses.

Phase 1 of the water rights analysis is complete. This consisted of a review of all Ecology water right records and a tentative evaluation of which water rights represent active uses and which do not on the basis of the County's assessor records. Phase 2 is underway and includes face-to-face meeting with water right holders to provide them with a copy of their water right records and to educate them about water rights, relinquishment, claims, etc.

Primary Accomplishments to Date

Completion of Instream Flow Workshop and delivery of summary report from USU outlining agreed-upon approaches for instream flow data collection efforts;

Delivery of draft technical assessment reports from USU;

Agreement on the delineation of drainages within WRIA #1 for planning purposes;

Continued involvement of both the Lummi Nation and the Nooksack Tribe;

Planning Unit approval of the public involvement and education plan;

Significant progress on the assessment of water rights in WRIA #1;

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Preparation of Decision Support System worksheets by virtually all of the water resource interests represented on the Planning Unit to serve as the basis for the identification of water-resource related problems/issues and the development of proposed management solutions.

Progress of planning units in setting instream flows

Considerable progress is being made on the instream flow component. Both last year and this year, USU field crews have been in the watershed conducting instream flow work which consists of collecting stream flow data along with other information related to elements such as fish utilization, habitat characterization, water quality, etc. USU is conducting both intensive site studies (consisting of a rigorous IFIM approach) and is testing a Rapid Assessment Method which might prove useful in this and other watersheds if it appears that results of this new method are consistent with the results of the more rigorous methods. The selection of sites has been coordinated with the various technical teams.

At the start of the effort, USU conducted a workshop in the basin to which instream flow experts from around the country and Canada were invited to discuss the various alternative methods of establishing instream flows. Dr. Thomas Hardy of USU chaired the workshop and prepared a report summarizing the event. A follow-up workshop is anticipated for early 2002. Unlike the first workshop which focused on the various technical assessment methods and the advantages and disadvantages of each, this workshop will focus on how instream flows might be set on the basis of the technical studies so it will focus more on policy and implementation. Plans are being formulated, but it is anticipated that a group of experts on the establishment of instream flows will be invited to participate.

San Juan - WRIA 2

Optional Elements: Quality, Habitat

Watershed Planning Grant funds provided to date: \$290,206

Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced

Key issues for WRIA 2 are water availability and coordination with growth management. No staff has been hired; all technical and project management tasks have been accomplished by contracted services. San Juan County Health and Community Services is the grant recipient and administrator. A Consultant Team has been engaged in Phase 2, Level 1 assessment. Draft Assessments are being reviewed and approved by Planning Unit. Phase 3 activities have begun and several early action items are pending. Goals for 2002: a public involvement strategy, approve Level 1 assessment reports, identify potential Level 2 assessments, and identify early implementation goals.

Any progress of planning units in setting instream flows

There are no instream flows currently proposed for WRIA 2.

Lower/Upper Skagit – WRIA 3/4

Optional Elements: Flows

Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date: \$925,000

Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced

A Watershed Plan for WRIA 3 and 4 is being accomplished in several steps. A detailed, thorough and comprehensive plan for the Samish Watershed, a major subbasin of WRIA 3 with significant fish, instream flow, and water management issues, is moving into Plan Development (Phase 3). The Initiating Governments and Planning Unit believed that it was essential that a successful plan be completed for the Samish before moving on to the rest of WRIA 3 and 4.

There is anticipation that limited surface or ground water will be found to be available in the Samish to meet future needs. In a coordinated effort, the Skagit PUD has been implementing portions of the Coordinated Water System Plan to assure that regional water supply is available in the Samish basin to meet existing and future needs. No staff has been hired for watershed planning; all technical and management work has been accomplished by contracted services. The Skagit County Council of Governments is the grant recipient and administrator. The Technical Team, comprised of specialists in surface water, ground water, water rights, instream flow, and data management are completing critical data acquisition for the Samish Plan. Level 2 data collection has been completed and the initial Phase 3 analysis has been scheduled. Specific accomplishments:

Ground Water – Consultants have completed the original scope of work for the groundwater assessment. Additional studies were approved that will have enhanced results. A ground water model (more sophisticated than water balance) was developed to evaluate ground water/surface water interactions and aquifer yield. Information to develop the model was obtained from both the well surveys and a recent (2001) DNR groundwater report on the Bow and Alger Quadrangles.

Hydrology – The continuous hydrologic model (HSPF) was built to develop natural stream flows and predict changes based on current and future water use. This was a step above the Stella model that had been proposed and was completed within budget. The analysis was made possible by contracting with noted hydrologist, Norm Crawford, who recently developed a model in a nearby watershed and already had much of the input data in a useable electronic form.

Water Use and Water Rights – Estimates of residential water use were developed primarily on population. Exempt well use was incorporated into the water rights scenario. New population figures were compared to the 1990 census projections to check accuracy of population projections. A summary of potential irrigated acreage has been conducted from the 2000 agricultural survey.

Data Management – Ground water and data management tasks have been completed. GeoEngineers will provide the maps in the .odb format as a template and all analysts will have the same format. Both landscape and portrait templates will be provided.

Project Management – All technical work has proceeded as planned. Projects that were added to the original scope have increased the ability of the planning team to make decisions. Additional costs for the studies were made up by economies in the technical analysis and reducing facilitation and project management costs.

Watershed Plan Development and Phase III – Alternative implementation plan development will begin in September 2001. Negotiations will continue until resolution

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of planning issues and a recommendation for adoption can be forwarded to the Skagit County Board of Commissioners.

Progress of planning units in setting instream flows

In addition to an IFIM report, two additional aspects that address stream segments that agency biologists requested were completed. The first area is the large and unique wetland complex in the Upper Samish River. A temporary stream gage was installed and cross section data from the wetland shows the effect of streamflow on available habitat. Secondly, field measurements, analysis and a report using the “toe-width” method (USGS, 1975) were employed for 19 small streams that were not addressed by the IFIM study. This study will enable instream flow needs to be addressed on many of the small fish bearing streams in the Samish Basin within the original IFIM budget. Future instream flows will address the Nookachamps subbasin and other tributaries in WRIs 3 & 4. It is noteworthy that Ecology completed and adopted an instream flow rule for the Lower and Upper Skagit (WRIs 3 & 4) based on studies begun in 1996 and funded by the city of Anacortes and the Skagit PUD. Other federally-mandated flows are currently in place for Seattle City Light’s Skagit Project in WRIA 4 and are being re-negotiated through relicensing of the Puget Sound Energy hydroelectric project on the Baker River.

Island – WRIA 6

Optional Elements: Quality, Habitat, still thinking about flows but there are no significant tributaries

Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date: \$197,736

Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced

Completed a set of Early Action Recommendations for water management while the watershed plan is being developed. Phase 2 assessment underway with newly hired county staff conducting the field-work portion of the assessment. Phase 3 application submitted to Ecology for approval.

Snohomish – WRIA 7

Optional Elements: In start-up phase

Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date – \$0

Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced

The lead agencies have reapplied for a Phase 1 organizing grant. Earlier discussions among the initiating governments lead to some general terms for organizing and a draft Memorandum of Agreement.

Nisqually - WRIA 11

Optional Elements: Flows, Quality, Habitat

Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date: \$250,000

Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced

The Nisqually Planning Unit has their draft Phase II assessment out for review as of late August.

Progress of planning units in setting instream flows

Instream flow setting is not a major issue although additional work is contemplated. The Nisqually will be looking at setting flows on the tributaries.

Chambers-Clover - WRIA 12

Optional Elements: Quality, Habitat, still making final decision about whether to address flows

Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date: \$455,000

Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced

Consultants have been hired, the planning unit has refined the scope of work, and phase II work is beginning. A decision on requests for any supplemental or additional funding has not yet been made.

Progress of planning units in setting instream flows

The planning unit is not going to address instream flows at this time; however, they are going to consider addressing instream flows again before the December 2001 deadline. Unless the Puyallup Indian Tribe changes their position, instream flows will not be addressed in this planning process.

Deschutes - WRIA 13

Optional Elements: Quality, Habitat, the basin is closed so they will probably look at establishing target flows

Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date: \$455,000

Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced

The Deschutes Planning Unit will have their draft assessment out later this fall. The Deschutes has produced several summary technical reports that will feed into the draft assessment.

Progress of planning units in setting instream flows

The Deschutes will be focusing on recommending target flows.

Kennedy/Goldsborough - WRIA 14

Optional Elements: Quality, Habitat, still making final decision on Flows

Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date: \$45,000

Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced

The Planning Unit is formed, meeting regularly and have applied for Phase 2 money. They are initiating a process to collect basic, existing watershed information. They have developed and adopted Interagency Agreement and Operating Procedures.

Progress of planning units in setting instream flows

They have had several briefings and discussions on instream flows. Flows are currently set in this WRIA. The current status is that the Planning Unit has directed the Lead Agency to apply for supplemental funding to revisit the set flows to see if they need updating. The Tribe's position is that they will only agree to changes if those changes add to fish protection.

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Kitsap – WRIA 15

- ⌘ **Optional Elements:** Quality, Habitat, still making final decision on Flows
- ⌘ **Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date:** \$145,020
- ⌘ **Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced**

Planning unit formed under a Memorandum of Understanding among the initiating governments. Phase 2 initiated. Consultant selected to perform an assessment of existing information on the WRIA.

Skokomish/Dosewallips - WRIA 16

- ⌘ **Optional Elements:** Quality, Habitat, still making final decision on Flows
- ⌘ **Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date:** \$50,000
- ⌘ **Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced**

The Planning Unit, Steering Committee and Technical Committee are formed and meeting regularly. Initiating collection of basic, existing watershed information and have applied for Phase 2 money. They have developed and adopted Interagency Agreement and Operating Procedures.

- ⌘ **Progress of planning units in setting instream flows**

The Planning Unit has had several briefings and discussions on the issue. The current status is that the Skokomish Tribe will be deciding their position on this by the middle of September. The remainder of the Initiating Governments has expressed an interest in applying for supplemental funding to set flows.

Quilcene/Snow - WRIA 17

- ⌘ **Optional Elements:** Flows, Quality, Habitat
- ⌘ **Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date:** \$475,000
- ⌘ **Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced**

The Planning Unit, Steering Committee and Technical Committee are formed and meeting regularly. They have completed the Level 1 Technical Assessment. Also, developed a list of critical "data gaps", and are actively pursuing options to develop hydrologic characterizations of the three largest sub-basins in the watershed. They have developed a preliminary draft outline of the final plan.

- ⌘ **Progress of planning units in setting instream flows**

The Planning Unit has had several briefings and discussions on the issue. The current status is that they intend to apply for supplemental funding to initiate setting flows.

Elwha/Dungeness – WRIA 18

- ⌘ **Optional Elements:** Flows, Quality, Habitat
- ⌘ **Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date:** \$475,000
- ⌘ **Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced**

A draft Phase 2 assessment for east WRIA 18

A draft Phase 2 assessment for Morse Creek drainage in west WRIA 18

A draft plan outline for watershed plan

Progress of planning units in setting instream flows

In addition to recommending adoption of an instream flow rule with the "IFIM optimal" flows, the Dungeness River Management Team is going to be looking at how to fashion an agreement to have more water in the river at times crucial for salmon. The reductions in irrigation diversions have significantly improved the instream flow situation in the river, but there is a long way to go. The irrigators have indicated in the past they are open to a discussion of "target", especially if we can accommodate variations in weather pattern. By whatever term, "target", "restoration" or some other word, the objective will be to have diversions from the river further decreased in late summer and fall to benefit salmon. Additional monies for addressing instream flows will be used in this direction, as well as gathering additional field data on actual fish usage of the river and side channels (still under discussion).

This year's experience with late season drought leases seems to indicate there may be some ability for permanent acquisition of late season irrigation rights for grass and alfalfa. In addition, it appears likely that the Dungeness watershed will be in line for some of the on-farm funding assistance through the Conservation Commission. On-farm improvements have substantial potential to reduce diversions from the river, especially in concert with infrastructure improvements. The irrigation season formally ends on September 15, so changes in irrigation rights can improve the stream until that point. However, the river continues to drop after mid-September, when the irrigation ditches are still supplying stock water. The replacement of these diversions from the river with ground water withdrawals is also being approached, but there are myriad questions, not the least of them related to water rights.

Another instream flow concern is protecting the existing trust water rights and instream flow improvements in the river. There are essentially no surface water diversions downstream of the irrigation outtakes, but there is hydraulic continuity between the river and aquifers. A nearly completed study has analyzed the relationship between the mainstem and the shallow aquifer, assessing the gaining and losing reaches. A committee is currently scoping a regional ground water model for the watershed, which would be expected to provide information in several arenas, e.g., effects of conservation measures on small streams and the shallow aquifer, availability of water for development in the second and third aquifers.

In west WRIA 18, Morse Creek flows are currently being addressed by the Elwha Morse management team. A 1983 IFIM study by Ecology is being reviewed by biologists, as well as other information from the Limiting Factors Analysis and hydrologic assessments. It's most probable that instream flow recommendations will come from the EMMT, but uncertain at this point if the group will go as far as "restoration" flows. It's unknown at this point whether the 1983 study will be deemed appropriate as the basis for flow setting, or if it might undergo some additional peer review or data augmentation. Other smaller streams in west WRIA are going to be covered with toe-width methodology. Ecology and WDFW will be completing these measurements in the near

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future. Water is supplied primarily by the City and PUD, with some well development outside their service areas.

The Elwha Morse management team hasn't yet addressed flows in the Elwha, except briefly. They don't feel an IFIM is appropriate until after dam removal and river stabilization; however, there would be a lot of benefit now in acquiring additional information about actual fish usage of the river, side channels and tributaries. More information about what the fish actually or would potentially use would be very beneficial to the watershed planning discussion.

Lyre-Hoko/Soleduck-Hoh - WRIA 19/20

⌘ **Optional Elements:** Flows, Quality, Habitat

⌘ **Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date:** \$300,810

⌘ **Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced**

Stakeholder groups have formed and have been meeting. The Bureau of Reclamation has agreed to conduct most of the phase II work without an outlay of money from the group.

⌘ **Progress of planning units in setting instream flows**

The Initiating Governments of these watersheds have elected to work on instream flows, however progress on this specific aspect of the planning process has not evolved beyond the determination to include flow setting in the process. A decision on requests for any supplemental or additional funding has not yet been made.

Lower/Upper Chehalis – WRIA 22/23

⌘ **Optional Elements:** Quality, Habitat , flows are already set they are looking at whether these flows protect fish

⌘ **Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date:** \$1,257,119

⌘ **Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced**

Phase 1 is complete. The Phase 2 Level 1 Assessment is done. A scope of work (outline) for the Phase 3 plan is scheduled to be complete by September 30. To make the most efficient use of limited funding and complete the assessment/planning process by the four-year deadline, the local planning unit is starting Phase 3 planning and using the resulting plan structure to determine how to best use the remaining funding for Phase 2 Level 2 Assessment.

⌘ **Progress of planning units in setting instream flows**

Ecology and WDFW are carrying out an IFIM study on six sub-basins where minimum instream flows were set in the 1976 rule. The purpose of the study is to determine if the 1976 minimum instream flows set to guide decisions on applications for water rights are also adequate to protect important fish habitat. This information is necessary before the Planning Unit can evaluate what flows are necessary to balance the competing needs of "water for fish and water for people.

Grays-Elochoman/Cowlitz - WRIA 25/26

⌘ **Optional Elements:** Flows, Quality, Habitat

Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date: \$885,000

Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced

The planning unit hired a consultant team in 2000. The consultant team has completed the level 1 assessment and has just completed modifications of their recommendations for level 2 work. The planning unit is considering which recommendations to fund with level 2 assessment money versus instream flow funds.

Progress of planning units in setting instream flows

An instream flow subcommittee is preparing an instream flow proposal to submit to Ecology for funding.

Lewis/Salmon-Washougal - WRIA 27/28

Optional Elements: Flows, Quality, Habitat

Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date: \$885,000

Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced

The planning unit hired a consultant team in 2000. The consultant team, led by GeoEngineers has completed the level 1 assessment and along with a comprehensive set of recommendations for level 2 work. The planning unit is considering which recommendations to pursue with level 2 funding versus instream flow funding.

Progress of planning units in setting instream flows

An instream flow subcommittee is developing a proposal to submit to Ecology for funding.

Wind-White Salmon - WRIA 29

Optional Elements: Flows, Quality, Habitat

Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date: \$161,691

Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced

The planning unit members are finalized the scope of work for the assessment and planning work to be completed in the next 4 years and received money from Ecology to conduct the level 1 assessment. The planning unit has hired Envirovision to lead up a consultant team for the level 1 assessment and began working on the assessment in July. We expect a completed assessment in January 2002.

Progress of planning units in setting instream flows

An instream flow subcommittee is developing an instream flow proposal for submittal to Ecology.

Klickitat - WRIA 30

Optional Elements: Quality, Habitat, still making final decision on Flows

Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date: \$450,000

Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced

WRIA 30 has had some changes in staff which have resulted in the planning unit going back to address phase one issues. They are still working to formally complete Phase 1. A

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consulting firm has been chosen to assist the Planning Unit during Phase 2.

Walla Walla - WRIA 32

≠ **Optional Elements:** Flows, Quality, Habitat

≠ **Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date:** \$50,000

≠ **Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced**

The planning unit has adopted ground rules, a decision making process and organized 4 committees: instream flow and water quantity, water quality, habitat, and a steering committee. Phase I of watershed planning is complete. The broad issues have been described and committees are working on assembling data and refining assessment needs.

≠ **Progress of planning units in setting instream flows**

An instream flow subcommittee is developing an instream flow proposal for submittal to Ecology.

Lower Yakima /Naches/Upper Yakima - WRIA 37/38/39

≠ **Optional Elements:** Quality, Habitat, still making final decision on Flows

≠ **Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date:** \$1,117,706

≠ **Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced**

Phase 3 approximately 50 percent complete.

They have produced - Phase 2 (Level 1 Assessment)

≠ **Progress of planning units in setting instream flows**

The Lead Agency (TCWRA) is currently considering taking on the instream flow component.

Upper Crab/Wilson - WRIA 43

≠ **Optional Elements:** still in organization phase

≠ **Watershed Planning Grant funds provided to date:** \$47,500

≠ **Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced**

The PU initiated in January 2000, and the group is meeting on a monthly basis and is working on Phase 1 tasks. State participation has been requested, and we are beginning discussions on the scope of optional elements we will address. The PU has struggled with the development of operating procedures, having spent about half of our monthly meetings the past four months on this task. They anticipate applying for Phase 2 funds by June 30 2002. One of the primary issues to date with this PU is to protect the rights of landowners to sustain livestock grazing in riparian pastures. They recognize the need to sustain stream health, including water quality and fish habitat, but believe that livestock management is compatible with natural resource protection.

Wenatchee – WRIA 45

≠ **Optional Elements:** Quality, Habitat, still making final decision on Flows

≠ **Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date:** \$211,800

Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced

The Wenatchee Watershed Planning Unit (WWPU) has only recently begun the Phase II (Assessment) work. It has yet to expend any resources on development of technical product.

Progress of planning units in setting instream flows

The Wenatchee Watershed Planning Unit has only recently entered into the Assessment Phase (Phase II). As such, the Water Quantity/Instream Flow sub-committee has only had opportunity for basic review of instream flow issues, analytical techniques, and potential solutions.

Prior to the July 9 meeting of the Water Quantity/Instream Flow Sub-Committee the group received and began review of the Wenatchee River Basin Instream Resources Protection Program (IRPP). At the August 28 meeting of the sub-committee, the group articulated numerous reasons for the re-assessment of flow in the Wenatchee Watershed. The sub-committee recognized that both the science of instream flow analysis and the types of issues needing to be addressed by instream flows have changed significantly from when the IRPP was developed. The sub-committee noted that numerous instream flow assessment techniques are available today that were not available, or were not as fully developed and readily applied as when the IRPP was developed. Also, with the listing for protection of spring Chinook salmon as endangered, steelhead listed as endangered, and bull trout listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), there is need for a more robust methodology in assessing instream flow needs. Therefore the sub-committee recommends that the Planning Unit agree to initiate an instream flow assessment using the Instream Flow Incremental Methodology (IFIM), and support an application to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRF Board). This request will be made to the full WWPU at the September 12, 2001 meeting.

Schedule for Instream Flow setting: Assuming that the Planning Unit will begin the assessment phase sometime in late 2001 or early 2002, there are two potential scenarios. Under the first scenario, the Wenatchee Watershed Planning Unit would complete an assessment of instream flows sometime in 2004 or 2005, and incorporate recommended flows in the Watershed Plan to be completed sometime in late 2005 or early 2006. Another alternative is that the Wenatchee Watershed Planning Unit may be unable to secure adequate funding to resolve critical uncertainties during the assessment phase, or are unable to agree upon recommended flows, and therefore no flow are recommended at the end of watershed planning in late 2005/early 2006.

Entiat WRIA 46

Optional Elements: Flows, Quality, Habitat

Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date: \$271,250

Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced

1. Entiat Valley Watershed Study – COORDINATED RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT PLAN – 2nd Draft. 81 pp.

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The CRM Plan synthesizes the following information: location, topography, climate, hydrology, history, land ownership, land uses (i.e. agriculture, livestock and grazing, timber, recreation, and residential housing), natural resources (i.e. landforms-soil, vegetation, wildfire, water quantity-use, water quality, riparian/aquatic resources, wetlands, fisheries/habitat, wildlife/habitat, economic and social resources, cultural resources, environmental concerns, federal land management, issues resolution/opportunities/actions.

2. AFW Tour Package, 24 pp. The compendium contains information about the Entiat WRIA Planning Unit's (EWPU) vision and goals; planning unit status; planning unit membership; technical support group membership; historical timeline of events in the watershed; map of large fire occurrence; current hydrologic summary information ;delineation of "headwaters, transfer, and depositional zones" of the watershed.
3. Instream Flow Workshop – Over 45 hours of videotape documenting the USGS-Biological Resources Division IF 251 "Designing and conducting Instream flow Analyses Using the Instream Flow Incremental Methodology – IFIM". This was a 3-dya workshop sponsored by the Washington Department of Ecology and the Entiat WRIA Planning Unit. Also available are copies of manuals and guideline documents, session handouts, spreadsheets used during the presentation, and URL's for pertinent web sites and related information.
4. Entiat WRIA Planning Unit – Habitat Subcommittee and Mobrand Biometrics, Inc. (MBI). July, 2001. Entiat EDT Watershed Analysis – Draft Progress Report". 155 pages.

5. The Entiat Geographic Information System ... known as "EGIS".

The EGIS is a compilation of the most current natural resources information for the Entiat WRIA. It includes such things as: water rights, claim, and certificate places of use and points of diversion, gage station locations, wells, parcel layer, salmonid distribution, reaches listed on 303-d, water quality point sources, and much more.

Progress of planning units in setting instream flows

March 6, 2000: Entiat Instream Flow Technical Sub-Committee analyzed Entiat and Mad Rivers Fish Habitat Analysis Using the Instream Flow Incremental Methodology" (Caldwell and Beecher 1995). Recommended improvements were developed.

March 21- 23, 2000: EWPU co-sponsors and attends a three-day workshop identifying instream flow problems, analytical techniques, and methods to achieve problem resolution. The U.S. Geological Survey Biological Resources Division's Ken Bovee and Terry Waddel made the majority of the presentations. Participants included representatives of the EWPU, other Planning Units, tribes, counties, state and federal agencies, and consultants.

April 19, 2000: Entiat Watershed Planning Unit consensus decision to use IFIM to address instream flow issues in the Entiat River watershed and consensus decision to

apply for Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRF Board) grant to support an Entiat IFIM.

January, 2001: SRF Board approves Entiat IFIM grant application.

April through June, 2001: Instream Flow Technical and Facilitation Recruitment

July 19, 2001: Consultant selected to assist with the Entiat IFIM

Schedule for Instream Flow setting: 10/01- plan of work due, 10/01 through 9/02 – Implement Study, 7/02 through 9/02 - Alternative Analysis, 9/02 through 3/03 – Alternative Selection. 3/03 through 9/03 recommendations incorporated in Watershed Plan. After 9/03 the State will work with partners to implement approved elements.

Moses Coulee/Foster Creek - WRIA 44/50

Optional Elements: Quality, Habitat, still making final decision on Flows

Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date: \$432,706

Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced

The Moses Coulee / Foster Creek Planning unit completed Phase 1 of watershed planning by developing a scope of work for the watershed assessment. In September, 2000 they began working on the Phase 2 assessment and have hired consultants to collect data and produce the assessment report. The consultants are collecting data and an assessment report is expected to be complete during the third quarter of 2002.

The Moses Coulee / Foster Creek Planning Unit entered Phase 2 assessment of watershed planning in September of 2000. Current activities include data collection by consultants contracted to complete the assessment. The planning unit has a detailed budget that defines how they will complete the assessment with the available watershed planning funds. Phase 3 planning will begin upon the completion of their assessment.

It is early in the planning process for the Moses Coulee / Foster Creek Planning Unit with the first major product expected to be an assessment sometime next year. The planning unit has produced the following products: Mission Statement; Scope of Work for the Assessment; and Watershed Assessment Budget.

Progress of planning in setting instream flows

The initiating governments initially indicated that the planning unit would address instream flows within the area. ESHB 1832 created an opportunity for the initiating governments to revisit that decision. Currently the initiating governments are reexamining whether they want to address instream flows and will inform the department of their decision prior to December 1st 2001 as required by ESHB 1832. The planning unit is collecting flow data as part of their assessment work that could be used in setting instream flows.

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Methow - WRIA 48

≠ **Optional Elements:** Flows, Quality, Habitat

≠ **Watershed Planning Funds Provided to date:** \$250,000 plus \$500,000 special legislative appropriation

≠ **Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced**

The Methow Basin Planning Unit (MBPU) continues to move forward with studies designed to characterize and model groundwater, surface water and the interaction of the two within the Methow Basin. The MBPU has just revised its schedule to focus on completing a watershed plan for the water quantity component by the end of September 2002. Since this work will be completed by a consultant, the MBPU will focus on addressing the remaining three components of watershed planning with the intent to include in the September 2002 document or soon thereafter. Golder Associates and the USGS have been working in the basin calibrating and collecting data from a twenty-three gauge stream gauge network, modeling the groundwater and surface water in the basin which includes gathering data for the models, and conducting a sub basin specific detailed groundwater study. Initial results should be available in reports to be issued during the fourth quarter of 2001. All information gathered during these efforts is being entered onto a website that contains a searchable electronic library.

The MBPU has expended the \$250,000, Phase 1 & 2 Watershed Planning grants provided under Chapter 90.82 RCW. To date, the MBPU has not finished a watershed assessment however it is anticipated that by March of 2002, the water quantity watershed assessment will be completed. In fiscal year 2000, the state legislature provided an additional \$500,000, for the MBPU to use to establish a baseline hydrologic assessment. This legislative appropriation, administered by the DOE, has been committed for the following: a groundwater study and model, development of a USGS watershed model, and a consultant (Golder Associates) to complete the water quantity assessment that fulfills the requirements of RCW 90.82.070. Okanogan County, the lead agency for the WRIA, has provided limited funding for a grant writer for the MBPU to obtain additional grant funding from other sources to complete assessments for the optional elements of watershed planning.

The following final documents have been produced or funded by the MBPU: Review of the Methow Limiting Factors Assessment, Ken Williams, September 2000; Lower Chewuch River Snorkel Survey Report, Pacific Watershed Institute, December 2000; Methow Basin Planning Unit Workplan, MBPU, June 2001, Definition of a scope of work for an IFIM study, Ken Williams, Spring 2001; initiated a Redd and Spawner Recruitment Survey, Ken Williams, yet to be published.

≠ **Progress of planning units in setting instream flows**

The Methow Planning Unit intends to examine instream flow needs in the Methow Basin to determine if the flows set in 1976 should be modified. Stream flow data that can be used in setting instream flows is being collected. Little work to assess instream flow needs has been completed.

Hangman (Latah) – WRIA 56

Optional Elements: Flows, Quality, Habitat

Watershed Planning Grant funds provided to date: \$230,000

Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced

The Hangman Planning Unit has completed all Phase 1 tasks, including an intergovernmental MOU, operating procedures, and has requested state participation. The Phase 2 Work Plan was completed in fall 2000, and they began working on Phase 2 tasks in spring 2001, primarily looking at geologic and groundwater characteristics of alluvial deposits in the lower Hangman valley. They have contracted with John Buchanan of Eastern Washington University to characterize groundwater storage and movement in the Hangman Valley alluvium, and contracted with Bob Derkey of WDNR to characterize surficial geology in greater detail and describe cross-sections in the lower Hangman valley alluvium. In summer 2001 Spokane CD completed a seepage run along Hangman Creek to help identify gaining and losing reaches.

Progress of planning units in setting instream flows

The Planning Unit intends to apply for additional funds to address the instream flow optional element, and will utilize toe width and/or IFIM methods to quantify flows needed for fish habitat and other beneficial uses.

Little/Middle Spokane - WRIAs 55/57

Optional Elements: Flows, Quality, Habitat

Watershed Planning Grant funds provided to date: \$455,000

Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced

The PU has completed an interagency MOU, operating procedures, request for state participation, and a Phase 2 Work Plan. They have selected an integrated surface/ground water routing model (MIKE SHE) to develop a water balance and assist with long-term assessments of water needs and help predict how future withdrawals will affect the Spokane-Rathdrum aquifer and the Spokane River, and the hydraulically connected Little Spokane River. The Middle Spokane (WRIA 57) is relatively data rich, which has provided our Phase 2 consultant, Golder & Assoc., with a lot of input for the model, but created significant data management challenges. Much of the recent focus has been on the Spokane river/aquifer interaction. Interagency cooperation has been utilized to maximize resources on many past and current investigations related to water quality, TMDLs, water supply, fish habitat, metals and PCB pollution and health risks. Cooperators include Ecology, Fish and Wildlife, US EPA, Spokane County, City of Spokane, Spokane County Conservation District, Spokane Community College, consultants, US Geological Survey, Eastern Washington University, and others. Golder & Assoc. is producing our Level 1 Watershed Assessment, a draft of which should be completed by fall 2001. The Planning Unit developed a draft Phase 3 workplan and applied for FY 2002 Phase 3 funds.

Progress of planning units in setting instream flows

Appendix A

The Planning Unit intends to apply for supplemental instream flow funding, which will be used to conduct IFIM analysis/ modeling on several reaches of the Spokane and Little Spokane rivers to assess fish habitat under various flow conditions.

Colville - WRIA 59

- ≠ **Optional Elements:** Quality, Habitat, still making final decision on Flows
- ≠ **Watershed Planning Grant funds provided to date:** \$455,000
- ≠ **Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced**

The PU organized in January 2000, completing a mission statement and operating procedures and requesting state participation by May 2000. We developed a Phase 2 Work Plan and applied for Phase 2/3 funds in June 2000, which was granted. The PU has contracted with US Geological Survey to conduct an aquifer model of the alluvial deposits in the Colville Valley, which will help determine if ground water is available for flow augmentations, or if groundwater storage is possible. The planning Unit is cooperating with Stevens County CD and Stevens County Planning for GIS base mapping, test well locations, surface geology and soils, water bodies, water quality information, and other data display.

- ≠ **Progress of planning units in setting instream flows**

The group has had extensive discussion regarding whether to formally address instream flows as an optional planning element. Instream flows were set on the mainstem in 1977, and the basin closed to further appropriation. Accordingly, the benefits of revisiting that rule and assessing the flow needs of fish may be limited.

The Planning Unit is very interested in investigating options for surface or ground water storage, conservation, reuse, enforcement, and other methods of protecting or augmenting instream flows to protect senior water rights and provide limited water for growth, particularly in communities.

Kettle - WRIA 60

- ≠ **Optional Elements:** still in the organizational phase
- ≠ **Watershed Planning Grant funds provided to date:** \$47,500
- ≠ **Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced**

The PU held its first meeting in January 2001, and has since developed an interagency MOU, Operating Procedures, and a draft Phase 2 Work Plan. The state was formally invited to participate in spring 2001. The Initiating Governments have thus far elected not to address optional elements. They have applied for Phase 2 funds in June 2001.

Pend Oreille - WRIA 62

- ≠ **Optional Elements:** Quality, Habitat, still making final decision on Flows
- ≠ **Watershed Planning Grant funds provided to date:** \$452,706
- ≠ **Progress of planning units toward completion of watershed plans and products produced**

The Planning Unit began meeting in fall 1998, and has requested state participation, established ground rules and goals, developed Phase 1 and Phase 2 Work Plans and

determined to address all three optional elements, including instream flow. They hired Entrix in spring 2001 to complete the Level 1 Watershed Assessment, while working concurrently with the Planning Unit to scope issues for the Watershed Plan (Phase 3).

Progress of planning units in setting instream flows

WRIA 62 is one of the few WRIs in the state where new water permits have been issued in the past several years, as flow in the mainstem Pend Oreille River has been considered adequate for instream flow needs during most years. The reach of the Pend Oreille River that flows through Pend Oreille County (about 5% of the total watershed) is highly regulated by dams and hydroelectric facilities. Many of the tributaries are unregulated, however, and instream flow needs for fish, including bull trout, have not been assessed. Accordingly, the PU intends to apply for supplemental instream flow funding through ESHB 1832. They will also seek additional funding for the Water Quality Optional Element, and to examine storage options and feasibility.

Instream Flow Activities in non-RCW 90.82 watersheds

Setting Instream Flows in NON- 2514 Areas

Ecology has hired two new staff, one in the Northwest Regional Office to carry out the the instream flow work in the Central Puget Sound fish-critical basins not engaged in planning under the Watershed Planning Act and one at Headquarters. Ecology will add three additional people, one person in the Eastern Regional Office for the eastern portion of the state and two more at headquarters.

There are six fish critical watersheds not engaged in watershed planning under the Watershed Planning Act:

- ## WRIA 5 Stillaguamish
- ## WRIA 8 Cedar Sammamish*
- ## WRIA 9 Green Duwamish*
- ## WRIA 10 Puyallup White*
- ## WRIA 35 Middle Snake/Walla Walla
- ## WRIA 49 Okanogan*

Note that WRIs 8, 9, 10, and 49 have existing instream flows and / or instream flow plans. Ecology will informally assess the status, and prospects of instream flows in the six watersheds. They will consider their readiness to proceed, additional work that has been completed, and other factors. They will consult and engage the appropriate interested parties in selected watersheds to either reaffirm existing flows, amend existing flows, or set new flows.

Appendix A

Signed Contract with Department of Health

STATEMENT OF WORK

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH WATERSHED PLANNING SUPPORT

The Department of Health (DOH), as CONTRACTOR under this agreement, will devote 1 FTE to providing overall state-wide support and technical assistance from DOH to watershed planning units as identified in Chapter 247, Laws of 1998 (The Watershed Planning Act, RCW 90.82). This will include:

1. Development and implementation of DOH Division of Drinking Water policies and procedures as required to implement the Watershed Management Act.
2. Coordinate DOH activities and resources as required to facilitate implementation of the Watershed Planning Act.
3. Limited participation (consistent with 1 FTE staffing) in 6-8 high priority planning areas jointly identified by the Department of Ecology (Ecology) and DOH.
4. Coordination with the Ecology leads in each of the watershed planning areas.
5. Coordination with Statewide Leads from each of the participating agencies designated in accordance with the interagency memorandum of agreement for implementation of the Watershed Management Act.

As the watershed planning process unfolds, priorities related to this FTE may change consistent with local needs and directions by the Executive branch. This agreement can be reassessed as needed.

DOH will submit a brief written report quarterly (every 3 months) describing the work completed and any problems or concerns.

DRAFT Contract with WDFW

We are still working to finalize this workplan with the Department of Fish and Wildlife. We are working to schedule a meeting with them at the end of September.

Workplan with WDFW for Instream Flow Work to support the establishment of flows through Watershed Planning activities under RCW 90.82

This work plan is for the time period of August 2001 - June 30, 2003.

This biennium Ecology is providing funding to support the development of instream flow recommendations in the RCW 90.82 watersheds that have chosen this optional element. This contract with WDFW is to:

- ## provide the following support to planning units addressing instream flows
- ## provide written comment to Ecology and the Planning unit on their instream flow products

- ## provide quarterly reports from WDFW on their involvement in the instream flow process to be used for the annual OFM report.

Technical Assistance and Written Comments on Instream Flow Assessment Products

Funding to planning units for this work will be provided in 3 sequential steps. Funding of each step is contingent upon Ecology approval. Ecology will consult with Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, Ecology and tribes at the completion of each of the steps.

- ## Funding is provided to WDFW to provide technical assistance to the planning units as they develop their scope of work for the instream flow study, conduct their study and negotiate flows.
- ## Funding is provided for WDFW to provide written comments to Ecology and the Planning Unit on the scope of work for the instream flow study, the instream flow study and negotiated flows.
- ## By September 15, 2001 WDFW will provide the name and contact information for the WDFW staff that will be providing this instream flow assistance for each WRIA. Attached is a form to help with providing that information.

Quarterly Reports

WDFW will provide a quarterly progress report detailing, by WRIA, their involvement in this instream flow process. This will be submitted with payment requests and will be included in the annual report to OFM.

Phase 4 Implementation Panel

(Meeting minutes from the first meeting to organize the Phase 4 Implementation Panel)

Notes from August 13 meeting with:

Tom Myrum, WA Water Resources Association

John Kounts – WA Public Utility Districts

Paul Parker – WA Assoc. of Counties

Harold Schlomann – WA Sewer and Water Districts

Dave Catterson (for Dave Williams) - Assoc. WA Cities

Fran Wilshusen (follow-up call) - Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

Scope of Committee's work: Review policy, administrative, and long-term funding options for the implementation of watershed plans developed under 90.82 RCW. Survey watershed planning units and lead agencies to determine implementation needs anticipated from upcoming watershed plans. Review existing funding sources at local, state and federal levels and determine if new funding mechanisms are necessary. Include ESA funding mechanisms in review. Ensure that effort is coordinated with Governor's Phase 2 Water

Appendix A

strategy. Report findings and recommendations to the state legislature for its consideration in the 2003 session. Provide interim report to the legislature in 2002.

Committee Makeup: Comprised of elected officials and other leaders engaged in watershed planning at the Initiating Government and Tribal level. Members chosen based on their commitment to watershed planning and proactive participation in making things happen. Committee membership augmented with environmental, irrigation, ag. producers, state and federal agencies. Legislators will also be invited. Ecology is on the committee, but does not chair. Chair (or Co-Chairs) to be established once list of members is determined. Governor to invite. Balance of interests and balance of geography (East/West) included.

Staffing the Effort: A consultant will be hired to develop the findings and recommendations for watershed plan implementation. Ecology will manage the consultant's contract, as well as provide support for meeting scheduling, logistics, and related activities. \$100K is available, to include consultant costs and agency logistics and support materials.

Next Steps: 1) Ecology will contact our Watershed Leads to determine who at Initiating Government/Tribal level are active, positive supporters of watershed planning, as well as other planning unit members who could enhance the committee. 2) Ecology will draft scope of work and RFP for the consultant services. 3) Route draft member list and scope of work to partners for their review and comments. 4) Select consultant and choose members based on partner comments. 5) Bring consultant on board in October. 6) Governor to invite Committee members to serve following selection of consultant and logistics of first meeting.